Statement

State-wise Number of Eligible Villages to be Provided with Telephone Facilities as on 31-12-2005

SI. No.	Name of the Service Area	No. of villages to be provided with VPT
1.	Andhra Pradesh	837
2.	Assam	6,565
3.	Jharkhand	1,664
4.	Gujarat	2,179
5.	Himachal Pradesh	768
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	1,533
7.	Madhya Pradesh	7,492
8.	Chhattisgarh	4,151
9.	Maharshtra	4,252
10.	North East-I	2,051
11.	North East-ll	1,520
12.	Orissa	4,899
13.	Rajasthan	8,054
14.	Uttaranchal	3,675

Affairs of Department of Telecommunication

†109. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that complaints regarding irregularities and corruption received by the Department of Telecommunication from all over the country are not being disposed off; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by Government to solve this problem?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) No, Sir. As and when complaints/cases of irregularities and corruption are reported, the same are investigated by the Departmental Vigilance Machinery and necessary disciplinary action as per rules is taken in cases where charges are established. Also, help of specialized investigating agencies like Police and CBI is taken in cases where deemed fit and action initiated/taken against the delinquent officers/ officials.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

National Knowledge Commission

110. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the main purposes of setting up of National Knowledge Commission;

(b) the manner in which it will help in spreading knowledge across the country;

(c) whether it has started its activities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) The National Knowledge Commission has been constituted to advise the Prime Minister on matters relating to institutions of knowledge creation, knowledge application and knowledge dissemination. Its terms of reference are as follows:

1. Build excellence in the educational system to meet the knowledge challenges of the 21st Century and increase India's competitive advantage in fields of knowledge.
2. Promote the creation of knowledge in S&T laboratories.
3. Improve the management of institutions engaged in intellectual property rights.
4. Promote knowlege applications in agriculture and industry.